

# The Accounting Historians Notebook

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## Meeting of officers, trustee and key members, Saturday, March 8, 2003, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston, Tx

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(Continued from page 11)

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## Minutes of Academy Meetings

### Meeting of Officers, Trustee and Key Members

Saturday, March 8, 2003

Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Houston, TX

Present: Joann Cross, Dale Flesher, Finley Graves, Sarah Holmes, Alan Mayper, Barbara Merino, Gary Previts, and John Rigsby

#### Call to Order

Sarah Holmes, President of the Academy, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm and distributed the agenda.

#### Minutes

Sarah Holmes distributed the minutes of the August 14, 2002 meeting in San Antonio of Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairpersons. Finley Graves moved that the minutes be approved, Dale Flesher

seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Treasurer's Report

John Rigsby distributed the Treasurer's Report that included the Audited Financial Statements and other financial reports for 2002. He discussed some of the notes attached to the statement for the month of December 2002. One note reported that the Endowment Fund CD was increased by \$2,000 when it matured in April 2002 so that it would be a close match to the balances in the endowment equity accounts. John discussed the note that showed a prior period adjustment to 2001 revenues of \$4595 to reflect the amount of prepayment of 2002 dues. He also noted accrual of a contingency in December 2002 of \$2,000 for shipping of books

(Continued on page 13)

from a collection in California to Oxford, MS.

A brief discussion occurred with respect to the amount that the President of the Academy could authorize without trustee approval; Gary Previts noted that the President had the right to authorize an amount equivalent to \$1,000 in 1976 dollars. Finley Graves suggested that the \$1,000 amount should be adjusted for inflation and that the inflation factor should be considered at the beginning of each year.

A discussion of the Statement of Financial Condition and the 2003 budget followed. Joann Cross agreed to get feedback from the membership about receiving the Newsletter on line to reduce costs; Finley Graves suggested that a memo of understanding for each of the endowment funds be obtained to ensure proper usage of each fund and everyone concurred with the suggestion.

Several minor changes to the budgeted amounts were approved. Finley Graves moves that the budget, as amended, be approved. John Rigsby seconded the motion and the budget was approved unanimously.

#### **Admin. Coordinator's Report**

Kathy Rice wrote to say that she had completed the 2002 directory of members, mailed copies of the 2003 Academy brochure and Call for Papers for the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress to members of the Regional Committee for distribution at the

regional meetings, reorganized the Garner Center in its new location, contracted with DHL at a lower price to deliver future journal mailings to international members, and mailed the first and second membership renewal notices. The decline in revenue from institutional memberships was noted by individuals present at the meeting and the participants suggested that the President ask the membership committee to try to find the reason for the decline. Sarah Holmes said she would get a reconciliation from Kathy Rice with respect to institutional membership.

#### **VP Communications Report**

Dan Jensen wrote to say he had no formal report but expected that some Website and e-publishing issues would come up at the meeting that he would address.

#### **Website**

A general discussion of the transfer of the website to Rutgers occurred; Rutgers has been very responsive and provided good support. The group recommended that the Academy try to get an in-house link to the current events kept by Sandy Welch at UTSA.

#### **Ebsco Publishing**

Gary Previts distributed copies of correspondence with Chris Mangione of Ebsco publishing, Steve Walker, editor of *Accounting Historians Journal*, and himself. Dr. Previts discussed the advantages

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 13)

and disadvantages of on line access to *AHJ* and noted legal issues that needed to be resolved. Dale Flesher moved that Dan Jensen be asked to look into the legal terms and conditions associated with e-publishing. John Rigsby seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Credit Cards/Website**

There was a general discussion of the need to have a secure website for credit card registration at conferences. Several people voiced reservations about using the Academy website and suggested that the Academy determine if a bank site could be found that would process credit card registration fees for Academy conferences. Gary Previts, Dale Flesher and John Rigsby said they would investigate the bank option for the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress.

### **Accounting Historians Journal**

The editor wrote that he had no report at this time. Barbara Merino suggested that the membership committee be asked to contact all authors publishing in *AHJ*, who were not Academy members, and invite them to join. The President agreed to convey this request to the membership committee chairman.

### **Notebook**

Joann Cross indicated that *The Accounting Historians Notebook* would be out on a timely basis; she suggested that distribution of the *Notebook* might be more efficient if mailed from her school. John

Rigsby moved that Joann be authorized to investigate the cost of mailing. Alan Mayper seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Joann agreed to develop a questionnaire to determine member's preferences with respect to hard copy versus online access to the *Notebook*.

### **Reports from Centers**

Elliott Slocum wrote he had no report on the Georgia State Center at this time.

Dale Flesher reported that the University of Mississippi Center had received a new collection from the van Seventer estate.

### **Admin. Policies Committee**

Ashton Bishop reported that he had been asked to address the question of changing the title of VP of Conferences to VP of Membership and he had solicited several opinions on the change. He reported that a change in title would enhance the role of a membership chair. A general discussion ensued and Barbara Merino moved that the name be changed from VP of Conferences to VP of Membership in 2004. Gary Previts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Hourglass Award**

Sarah Holmes reported she had sent out one request for nomination to the membership and would send out a second request in March.

### **International Relations Comm.**

Salvador Carmona submitted a report that documented the vision,

mission and plans of the committee to examine formalizing relationships between the Academy and other international associations with a historical interest and outlined other plans to increase international participation in the Academy.

#### **Life Membership Committee**

Dick Vangermeersch reported the committee would consider several people for life membership.

#### **Membership Committee**

Tom Robinson, membership committee chair, reported a number of steps that his committee would take this year to increase membership. He also requested that any member who had ideas on how to increase membership contact him.

#### **Public Relations Committee**

Sarah Holmes reported that Sandy Welch, chair of the committee, hoped to get a current affairs button up and running on the Academy website. The group requested that Sarah ask Sandy to explore the possibility of including a past event button on the website.

#### **Regional Committees**

Joel Thompson, regional program chair, reported that 5 history papers and a panel discussion would be presented at the Midwest AAA meeting in St. Louis. Gary Previts noted that 3 history papers had been presented at the Southwest AAA meeting in Houston.

#### **Conferences**

Barbara Merino and Alan Mayper

discussed plans for the 2003 Academy Research Conference to be held in Denton, November 6-8, 2003. Sarah Holmes reported she had mailed a letter and fliers to all domestic members and sent a flier and personal note by email to international members to encourage people to submit papers. A brief discussion occurred about the need for publicity, given the increasing number of conferences that solicit historical papers.

Gary Previts and Dale Flesher discussed plans for the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Accounting Historians to be held in St. Louis, MO, and Oxford, MS, on August 1-5, 2004. They noted that the organizing committee would meet at the Midwest AAA meeting to finalize preparations for the Congress.

Dick Fleischman, President Elect, indicated that he did not plan to have a separate research conference in 2004 since the International Congress would be held in the United States. He has contacted the Public Interest section of the AAA about jointly sponsoring a conference in Orlando prior to the AAA national meeting in August 2004 and has received a positive response.

#### **Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Merino,  
(on behalf of Robert Williams  
Secretary)